

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 095233
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:EHURWITZ:FLW
APPROVED BY S:WTWADDELL
EA - MR. HOLBROOKE
S/S: PSEBASTIAN

-----272320Z 019743 /70

P 272252Z APR 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 095233

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, KS, US

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR KIM CALLS ON SECRETARY

1. ON APRIL 26, KOREAN AMBASSADOR KIM YONG-SIK CALLED ON THE SECRETARY TO PRESENT COPIES OF HIS CREDENTIALS. ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE PARTICIPATED IN THE MEETING. ONLY SUBSTANTIVE TOPIC OF DISCUSSION WAS HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION, WHICH SECRETARY RAISED IN FORCEFUL TERMS.

2. SECRETARY NOTED THAT HUMAN RIGHTS WAS AN ISSUE OF GREAT CONCERN TO THE PRESIDENT, TO HIMSELF AND TO OTHERS IN THE ADMINISTRATION. PRESIDENT PARK MUST REALIZE THAT WE HAVE AVOIDED SPEAKING OUT PUBLICLY ON THE KOREAN HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTION IN THE EXPECTATION THAT PARK HIMSELF WOULD TAKE EARLY ACTION TO ALLEVIATE THE SITUATION. THE SECRETARY SAID WE CONTINUED TO HOPE THAT PRESIDENT PARK
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WOULD ACT WITHOUT OUR HAVING TO EXERT PUBLIC PRESSURES. IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE, HOWEVER, TO THINK THAT THE PRESENT SITUATION CAN GO ON FOR MUCH LONGER. THE SECRETARY HOPED THE AMBASSADOR WOULD CONVEY THIS MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT PARK.

3. AMBASSADOR KIM SAID HE WOULD CERTAINLY CONVEY THE MESSAGE. HE BELIEVED THIS ISSUE COULD BE WORKED OUT

QUIETLY OVER A PERIOD OF TIME.

4. THE SECRETARY SAID THAT A SOLUTION WAS VITALLY IMPORTANT. THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE WAS A THORN IN THE SIDE OF OUR RELATIONS. IT WAS ERODING SUPPORT IN THE CONGRESS AND THE PUBLIC FOR MEASURES NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN OUR RELATIONSHIP. IT WAS ALSO A SOURCE OF SADNESS TO THE PRESIDENT AND HIMSELF IN VIEW OF THE TRADITIONALLY CLOSE TIES BETWEEN THE U.S. AND KOREA. THE SECRETARY SAID THE ISSUE COULD BE RESOLVED IF PRESIDENT PARK WERE TO TAKE EARLY REMEDIAL ACTIONS WITHOUT VISIBLE OUTSIDE PRESSURES.

5. AMBASSADOR KIM REITERATED THE NEED FOR QUIETLY SETTLING THE ISSUE, POINTING OUT THAT PRESIDENT PARK WOULD NOT WANT TO APPEAR TO BE BENDING TO EXTERNAL PRESSURE. HE SAID THAT MORE TIME WOULD BE NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THIS.

6. ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE ASSERTED THAT THIS MADE THE TIME ELEMENT ALL THE MORE VITAL FROM OUR STANDPOINT. ONLY FAIRLY RAPID PROGRESS ON HUMAN RIGHTS WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO AVOID SPEAKING OUT PUBLICLY. DESPITE THE PASSAGE OF TIME, HOWEVER, THERE HAS BEEN NO FORWARD MOTION. INSTEAD THERE HAVE BEEN NEW DETENTIONS IN SEOUL, SOME OF WHICH BEGAN 24 HOURS AFTER HE AND A CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION HAD LEFT KOREA. SUCH DEVELOPMENTS MEAN THAT THE TIME FOR QUIET HANDLING OF THIS PROBLEM IS RUNNING OUT. AMBASSADOR KIM SAID HE WOULD GET THIS MESSAGE TO SEOUL.

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH
APPROVED BY: S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH

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O 280752Z APR 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 095233

NODIS
FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SEOUL FROM STATE APRIL 27:

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 095233

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, KS, US

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, HUMAN RIGHTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EHURWITZ:FLW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P850070-2067, N770002-0759
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2674549
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMBASSADOR KIM CALLS ON SECRETARY
TAGS: SHUM, PFOR, PREL, KS, US, (KIM YONG-SIK)
To: SEOUL
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ad3c3e9c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009